

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 (currently amended). A cable clamp in a generally horizontal condition and mountable to a supporting structure for clampingly engaging a cable or rope that supports a load, a base that includes a block of a longitudinal length greater than its transverse width, the block having an upwardly open channel extending the longitudinal length of the block thereof for having the cable or rope extended therein the length of the block, the channel having a web surface and transversely spaced side walls, longitudinally spaced recesses opening upwardly through the web surface and transversely spaced lands that at least in part define the channel side walls, a longitudinally elongated cover having a top wall with perimetric edge portions, flanges dependingly joined to the top wall edge portions and having transversely opposite longitudinally elongated portions, a longitudinally elongated ridge dependingly joined to the top wall in transversely spaced, transversely centered relationship to the flange longitudinal portions, the cover ridge being extendable into the base channel and having protrusions in about the same longitudinal spaced relationship as the recesses for forcing the cable or rope to extend in the recesses, and fasteners for securing the cover to the base for clamping the cable between the ridge and the base recesses.

2 (currently amended). The cable clamp of claim 1 wherein the base has at least three upwardly opening, longitudinally elongated recesses opening to the web surface, ~~and the cover~~ ridge extends substantially the longitudinal length of the channel and the cover has as at least three protrusions, the protrusions being at least partially extendable into the adjacent recesses.

3 (currently amended). The cable clamp of claim 1 wherein the block has a generally planar bottom surface and ~~an~~ a first chisel point ridge

that includes first and second elongated chisel point ridge portions joined to the bottom surface to depend therefrom, the chisel point ridge portions having surfaces that converge toward one another in a direction away from the planar surface, at least one of the chisel point ridge portions extending longitudinally and the other of the chisel point ridge portions extending transversely.

4 (currently amended). The cable clamp of claim 3 wherein the block has longitudinal side surfaces and transverse end surfaces, and the transversely extending chisel point ridge portion is ~~has a transversely elongated portion~~ longitudinally adjacent one of the end surfaces and [[a]] the longitudinally extending elongated chisel point ridge portion is transversely adjacent one of the longitudinal side surfaces.

5 (original). The cable clamp of claim 4 wherein the block has a second elongated chisel point ridge joined to the bottom surface to depend therefrom, the second chisel point ridge having horizontally elongated surfaces that converge toward one another in a direction away from the bottom surface, the second chisel point ridge being joined to the bottom surface diagonally remote from the first surface, the base having a vertical screw mounting aperture adjacent each of the chisel point ridges.

6 (currently amended). The cable clamp of claim 1 wherein the base and cover have vertically aligned mounting screw apertures, the protrusions include longitudinally remote first and second protrusions and a longitudinally intermediate third protrusion, the cover ridge has longitudinally opposite end portions, the flange longitudinal portions have longitudinally opposite ends and the flanges have transverse inturned portions joined to the end portions of flange longitudinal portions, the flange inturned portions having transversely adjacent ends joined to one another and downwardly opening slots with top transverse edges at about the elevation as the adjacent ridge end portion.

7 (canceled).

8 (canceled).

9 (currently amended). The cable clamp of claim 1 wherein each of the base recesses is of about the same depth, the ridge extends substantially the length of the cover and the protrusions include longitudinally remote first and second protrusions and a longitudinally intermediate third protrusion.

10 (canceled).

11 (currently amended). The cable clamp of claim ~~[[10]]~~ 25 wherein the third protrusion has longitudinally opposite, concavely curved surface portions and a planar crest surface intersecting the third protrusion concavely curved surface portion.

12 (original). The cable clamp of claim 11 wherein the amplitude of each of the crests is substantially the same, each of the recesses has a trough that is substantially the same depth as the other recesses and the maximum longitudinal dimension of each of the protrusions is substantially the same.

13 (currently amended). The cable clamp of claim ~~[[10]]~~ 25 wherein the flange longitudinal portions have longitudinally opposite ends and the flanges have transverse inturned portions joined to the end portions of flange longitudinal portions, the flange inturned portions having transversely adjacent ends joined to one another and having downwardly opening slots with top transverse edges at about the elevation as the adjacent ridge end portion.

14 (canceled).

15 (canceled).

16 (currently amended). The cable clamp of claim ~~[[14]]~~ 21 wherein ~~the base has a bottom surface portion and first and second elongated chisel point ridge portions extending downwardly of the bottom surface portion,~~ at least one of the chisel point ridge portions extending longitudinally and the other of the chisel point ridge portions extending transversely.

17 (canceled).

18 (currently amended). The cable clamp of claim [[14]] 21 wherein the ~~base has the side walls comprise~~ longitudinally elongated lands extending on transverse opposite sides of the recesses ~~that extend and~~ upwardly above the recesses and that the cover ridge extends substantially the longitudinal length of the base and is extendable downwardly between the lands.

19 (original). The cable clamp of claim 18 wherein the cover has flanges that include longitudinally elongated flange portions extendable downwardly from the cover in transverse spaced relationship to the ridge to have the lands extendable upwardly between the ridges and flange portions.

20 (currently amended). The cable clamp of claim 19 wherein the protrusions have trough and crests, the cover ridge has longitudinally opposite end portions ~~having that have~~ generally planar surfaces with the protrusions extending longitudinally therebetween and the flanges extending extend downwardly from the top wall to a lower elevation than the protrusions and ~~having have~~ longitudinally opposite end portions defining downwardly opening slots with top edges at about the elevation as the ridge planar surfaces.

21 (currently amended). A cable clamp in a generally horizontal condition and mountable to a supporting structure for clampingly engaging a cable or rope that supports a load, a longitudinally elongated base that includes ~~an~~ a longitudinally elongated block having a generally planar bottom surface and an upwardly opening, longitudinally elongated channel extending therethrough for having the cable or rope extended therein, the channel having a web surface, longitudinally spaced recesses opening upwardly through the web surface and spaced side walls, an elongated cover having a top wall with perimetric edge portions, flanges dependingly joined to the top wall edge portions and having opposite elongated portions, an elongated cover ridge

dependingly joined to the top wall in spaced, centered relationship to the flange portions, the cover ridge being extendable into the base channel, and fasteners for securing the cover to the base for clamping the cable between the cover ridge and the base recesses, the block having horizontally elongated chisel point ridge portions depending downwardly from the block bottom surface, one of the ridge portions extending at an angle other than 180 degrees relative to another of the chisel point ridge portion, each of the chisel point ridge portions having horizontally elongated surfaces that converge toward one another in a downward direction.

22 (currently amended). The cable clamp of claim 21 wherein the ~~block and its channel are longitudinally elongated, the channel extends~~ the longitudinal length of the block, the block having a plurality of longitudinally spaced recesses opening to the web surface, the cover ridge has downwardly extending protrusions spaced in about the same relationship as the recesses and ~~that the~~ chisel point ridge portions are joined to one another to extend both longitudinally and transversely relative to the bottom surface.

23 (original). The cable clamp of claim 22 wherein the chisel point ridge portions include first and second chisel ridge portions joined to one another to form a first chisel point ridge and third and fourth chisel point ridge portions joined to one another to form a second chisel point ridge joined to the block in diagonally spaced relationship to the first chisel point ridge.

24 (new). A cable clamp in a generally horizontal condition and mountable to a supporting structure for clampingly engaging a cable or rope that supports a load, a base that includes a block of a longitudinal length greater than its transverse width, the block having an upwardly open channel extending the longitudinal length thereof for having the cable or rope extended therein the length of the block, the channel having a web surface and transversely spaced side walls, longitudinally

spaced recesses opening upwardly through the web surface and transversely spaced lands that at least in part define the channel side walls, a longitudinally elongated cover having a top wall with perimetric edge portions, flanges dependingly joined to the top wall edge portions and having transversely opposite longitudinally elongated portions, a longitudinally elongated ridge dependingly joined to the top wall in transversely spaced, transversely centered relationship to the flange longitudinal portions, the maximum distance that the ridge depends from the cover top wall being less than the maximum distance the flanges depend from the top wall, the cover ridge being extendable into the base channel and having protrusions in about the same longitudinal spaced relationship as the recesses, the ridge, flanges and top wall defining a cavity on each transverse side of the ridge of a size and shape to have the base lands extendable thereinto to abut against the top wall, the base and cover having vertically aligned mounting screw apertures, and fasteners for securing the cover to the base for clamping the cable between the ridge and the base recesses.

25 (new). A cable clamp in a generally horizontal condition and mountable to a supporting structure for clampingly engaging a cable or rope that supports a load, a base that includes a block of a longitudinal length greater than its transverse width, the block having an upwardly open channel extending the longitudinal length thereof for having the cable or rope extended therein the length of the block, the channel having a web surface and transversely spaced side walls, longitudinally spaced recesses opening upwardly through the web surface, each of the base recesses being of about the same depth and concavely curved to open in an upward direction, and transversely spaced lands that at least in part define the channel side walls, a longitudinally elongated cover having a top wall with perimetric edge portions, flanges dependingly joined to the top wall edge portions and having transversely opposite longitudinally elongated portions, a longitudinally elongated ridge

dependingly joined to the top wall in transversely spaced, transversely centered relationship to the flange longitudinal portions, the cover ridge being extendable into the base channel and having protrusions in about the same longitudinal spaced relationship as the recesses the protrusions including longitudinally remote first and second protrusions and a longitudinally intermediate third protrusion, the first and second protrusions being convexly curved to extend in a downward direction and have a crest, and fasteners for securing the cover to the base for clamping the cable between the ridge and the base recesses.

26 (new). A cable clamp in a generally horizontal condition and mountable to a supporting structure for clampingly engaging a cable or rope that supports a load, comprising a longitudinally elongated base having an upwardly opening channel, the channel having a web surface, longitudinally spaced, upwardly opening, concavely curved first, second and third recesses opening to the web surface with the second recess being longitudinally intermediate the first and third recesses, a longitudinally elongated cover having a top wall and a longitudinally elongated ridge having first, second and third protrusions at least partially extendable into the first, second and third recesses respectively, the cover and base having vertically aligned clamp screw apertures with at least one of the cover apertures and the base apertures being threaded, and clamp screws extendable into the mounting screw apertures and threaded in the threaded apertures to removably secure the cover and base in a clamping relationship, the first and third protrusions being convexly curved and having crests and the second protrusion having a crest that is generally planar to provide transversely extending edges, the amplitude of the crests being substantially equal and the second recess having a concavely curved surface that is abutable against the second protrusion edges in longitudinal spaced relationship with the second crest intermediate its transverse edges being spaced from the second recess surface.